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August 11, 2010

TO:

Bimla Rhinehart, Executive Director California Transportation Commission

FROM:

RONALD E. BRUMMETT,

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Joseph Stramaglia, Senior Planner

SUBJECT:

Tab 16 - UPDATE ON PROJECTS DELIVERED BUT NOT YET VOTED

Executive Director Rhinehart, we wanted to share with your Commissioner's information on the Westside Parkway project listed in the above report for this month's CTC meeting. We understand that the state's "obligational authority" cash level has been reduced to zero; however, we wish to convey to you and your Commissioner's that this project is federal-ready and shovel-ready, should there be an opportunity in the future to access federal funding for this project. The project information from the report is added below:

Locally Administered STIP Projects off the State Highway System (COST INCREASE) (ADVANCEMENT)

\$38,950,000 City of Bakersfield KCOG 06-Kern June 10 Westside Parkway-Phase 6. In Bakersfield, from Allen Road to Heath Road/West Beltway. Extend Parkway. The City is requesting an allocation of \$38,000,000, which is \$12,000,000 over the programmed amount. The project is eligible for federal funds. If approved for funding with federal funds then the split will be \$33,641,400 federal and \$4,358,500 state. (Additional \$12,950,000 to be programmed from future Kern County RIP shares.) Outcome/Output: Extend new freeway from Allen Road to Heath Road/West Beltway (Segment 6) to improve traffic operation, provide new access, and improve safety conditions. IF ALLOCATED, WOULD BE CONTINGENT UPON PASSAGE OF THE 2010 BUDGET ACT. 4C3094 06-8705H RIP / 12-13 CONST \$26,000,000 \$38,950,000 2010-11 101-0042 SHA \$38,950,000

For your information and the information of your Commissioner's, we wish to make the following points about the readiness and benefits of advancing the Westside Parkway Phase 6 with FY 09-10 federal funds. Phase 6 is currently programmed in the 2010 STIP in FY 2012-13.

- Final Design/PS&E completed. Right-of-way acquisition completed. Permits completed.
- Paperwork to request federal authorization is already on file at the Caltrans District 6 Office.
- This project, when combined with the Phase 4 project previously allocated and the other roadway segments currently under construction, would complete the Westside Parkway roadway construction.
- This is a new roadway on a new alignment, and so will provide new transportation capacity to the state and this region.
- This project, combined with the SR 58 connector project (funded with local funds and federal earmarks and currently under environmental development), completes a critical link in the regional transportation network, ultimately connecting I-40 to I-5.
- Any allocation amount now would be counted against future KernCOG 2012 STIP regional shares, and thus help balance the 2012 STIP.
- The City of Bakersfield has committed to providing the non-federal match from local funds, which would allow this project to proceed immediately to bidding and construction, quickly stimulating the economy and not being delayed waiting for a State approved budget.

